

Sub B1 8. (Amended) The [method] system recited in Claim 1 wherein the [harvest analysis] harvesting software:

processes statistics derived from the master cache and the local caches to produces a list of content to add to the master cache and a list of content to delete from the master cache;
5 forming a pseudo client to retrieve and verify [66] the content to be added to the master cache; and
transmitting the verified content from the master cache to the local caches.

9. (Amended) A method for transferring content distributed by a data distribution system to a gateway into a local cache, comprising the steps of:

creating a pseudo client on the gateway;
receiving an interrupt at the pseudo client indicating that that content has arrived at the
5 gateway;
enabling the gateway as a sibling cache for the local cache;
requesting content to be transferred from the sibling cache to the local cache;
verifying that content has been transferred to the local cache during the transfer process;
disabling the gateway as a sibling cache of the local cache at the completion of the
10 process; and
causing the local cache to retrieve the content from the sibling cache until all content has been transferred.

Please add the following new Claims.

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--13. A caching system for use with a data distribution system, comprising:
a master cache for receiving content for distribution by the data distribution system to one or more user computers;
a gateway that is distinct from the one or more user computers for receiving content that
5 is distributed by the data distribution system from the master cache;
one or more local caches for storing the content received by the gateway destined for the one or more user computers; and
harvesting software coupled to the master cache and the gateway for processing information corresponding to probability distributions that the local caches satisfy requests
10 from their respective users to predictively distribute the desired content to the respective user computers.--

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--14. The system recited in Claim 13 wherein the harvesting software processes information contained in transmit hit/miss data and probability tables generated at the gateway.

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--15. The system recited in Claim 15 wherein the gateway comprises:

a pseudo client for receiving an entitlement message indicating that that content has arrived at the gateway, for enabling the gateway as a sibling cache for the local cache, for requesting content to be transferred from the sibling cache to the local cache, for verifying that
5 content has been transferred to the local cache during the transfer process, for disabling the gateway as a sibling cache of the local cache at the completion of the process;

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and wherein the local cache retrieves [56] the content from the sibling cache until all content has been transferred.--

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--16. The system recited in Claim 1 wherein the harvesting software:
processes statistics derived from the master cache and the local caches to produces a list
of content to add to the master cache and a list of content to delete from the master cache;
forming a pseudo client to retrieve and verify the content to be added to the master cache;
5 and
transmitting the verified content from the master cache to the local caches.--

REMARKS

Regarding the status of this application, Claims 5-9 have been amended, Claims 13-16 have been added, and Claims 1-16 are presently pending in this application. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Minor typographical errors in the specification have been corrected.

Claims 1-4, and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,987,233 issued to Humphrey. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection is in error.

The Abstract of the Humphrey patent states that a "comprehensive global information network broadcasting system and implementation thereof is designed to be used to provide a plurality of, what is commonly referred to as internet service providers with updated information through the use of high speed satellite links directly to the local internet service provider from a centralized location. The satellite broadcasting system is combined with servers known as caching or proxy servers located at the client site which serve to store web and other data until the end user needs to access the data and a master cache center which coordinates the selection and transmission of information to those client sites via the satellite broadcasting system. The caching of data objects as close to the end user as possible will require less data to transit the backbones networks. The client site cache communicates to the master cache center via a connection to the internet and the client site cache receives from the master cache center via the satellite broadcasting system and, in some cases, the internet connection."

The Humphrey system does not employ a gateway as is used in the present invention. The Examiner admitted that the Humphrey patent does not explicitly disclose a gateway connected to the master cache. However, the Examiner took "Official Notice" that the concept